

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David R. Obey Chairman House Appropriations Committee H-218, U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable John Boehner Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204, U.S. Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader Boehner, Chairman Obey, and Ranking Member Lewis:

As Congress continues to work on an economic recovery package, we urge you seize this opportunity to make a serious push for electric transportation technologies as part of a green jobs agenda and a comprehensive solution to decreasing our dependence on imported oil. We cannot move from a dependency on foreign oil to a dependency on foreign-made technology.

Nearly all batteries for hybrid electric vehicles are made in Pacific Rim countries. Although U.S. federal spending on advanced batteries jumped from \$24.4 million in FY 2006 to \$56.1 million in FY 2008, Japan – the acknowledged leader in advanced battery production – has been investing in this technology for many years. We have not. We are coming to the game late and must build capability quickly to keep up.

Funding for electric transportation technologies will be essential to achieving President-elect Obama's goal of placing one million plug-in hybrid vehicles on the road by 2015 and ensure that these vehicles are built here in America.

Therefore the economic recovery package should include a comprehensive electric vehicle agenda that provides robust support for a broad spectrum of technologies related to electrifying our transportation sector, including:

Advanced Battery Technology Grants – Funding to support \$1 billion in grants to support advanced battery manufacturing in the U.S., along with other components for advanced technology vehicles, authorized in sections 132, 641 and 136(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act. Other nations are investing heavily in the development and manufacture of

advanced batteries. We need to invest in these vital technologies and the jobs they will create here in the U.S. Grants for advanced battery manufacturing are essential to jump start development of a U.S. manufacturing base for batteries and ultimately to reduce the overall cost of both manufacturing and the technology itself.

Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Incentive Program - Funding to support an additional \$25 billion in federal loans for retooling U.S. manufacturing facilities to produce the next generation of advanced technology vehicles and their key components under the direct loan program authorized in section 136 of the Energy Independence and Security Act. This incentive program will accelerate U.S. auto manufacturers' and part suppliers' efforts to retool their facilities and speed the deployment of advanced technology vehicles. DOE has received over 70 applications for funding, including proposals related to advanced batteries, and is evaluating them for the first round of loans.

Advanced Battery Loans – Funding to support up to \$3.3 billion loan guarantees for manufacturing of advanced batteries and battery systems, as authorized by section 135 of the Energy Independence and Security Act. Advanced batteries are one of the many technologies eligible for loan guarantees authorized under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, but the appropriations provided for this program will likely soon be fully committed. Funding specifically directed to the advanced battery loan guarantee program in section 135 will ensure there is sufficient federal support to develop and sustain robust battery manufacturing in the U.S.

A comprehensive electric vehicle agenda is vital to addressing climate change, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, and to creating jobs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

Maurice Hinchey

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Mike Thompson

Member of Congress

Will Shor

Meniber of Congre

Member of Congress

Dale E. (Cilde Dale Kildee Bart Stupak Member of Congress Member of Congress Tim Ryan Member of Congress Member of Congress Brian Higgins Member of Congress Member of Congress Marcy Kaptu Tammy Baldwin Member of Congress Member of Congress Carolyn Kilpatrick Barbara Lee Member of Congress Member of Congress Daniel Lipinski Candice Miller Member of Congress Member of Congress Carolyn Maloney Keith Ellison Member of Congress Member of Congress John Hall Russ Carnahan Member of Congress Member of Congress

Dennis Kucin Ch Hank Johnson Member of Congress Member of Congress Anna Eshoo Member of Congress Member of Congress Charles Wilson Linda Sanchez Member of Congress Member of Congress Gary Peters Member of Congress Member of Congress John Yarmuth James McGovern Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Alcee Hastings Member of Congress

Fred Upton Member of Congress Mike Rogers (MI)
Member of Congress

Conyers Member of Congress